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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/981,248	10/16/2001	Mark A. Hoffman	CRNI.83071	6008
46169 7590 09/18/2007 SHOOK, HARDY & BACON L.L.P. Intellectual Property Department 2555 GRAND BOULEVARD KANSAS CITY, MO 64108-2613			EXAMINER SIMS, JASON M	
			ART UNIT 1631	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 09/18/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.



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09981248	10/16/2001	HOFFMAN ET AL.	CRNI.83071

SHOOK, HARDY & BACON L.L.P.  
Intellectual Property Department  
2555 GRAND BOULEVARD  
KANSAS CITY, MO 64108-2613

**EXAMINER**

Marjorie Moran

ART UNIT	PAPER
1631	20070914

DATE MAILED:

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**Commissioner for Patents**

The reply brief filed 6/11/07 has been entered and considered. The application has been forwarded to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences for decision on the appeal.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Marjorie Moran whose telephone number is 571-272-0720. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 6:30 am- 2 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ram Shukla can be reached on 571-272-0735. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

*Marjorie A. Moran*

9/14/07

Marjorie Moran  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit: 1631